

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 03058 281539Z  
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 PER-01 /017 W  
-----112681 281703Z /46  
R 281415Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4408

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 3058

FROM THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: AFSP APER LE ASEC  
SUBJ: TRAVEL OF DEPENDENTS TO BEIRUT

REF: BEIRUT 3057

1. PRESENT POLICY IS THAT ADULT DEPENDENTS OF USG PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO BEIRUT ARE PERMITTED TO TRAVEL TO POST AT EMPLOYEES' OPTION. CHILDREN ARE NOT CURRENTLY PERMITTED. WHILE UNDERLYING SECURITY SITUATION IS STILL NOT NORMAL, THERE HAS BEEN STEADY IMPROVEMENT IN DAY-TO-DAY SECURITY, AND I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD PERMIT FAMILIES TO COME TO POST, STILL AT EMPLOYEES' OPTION, IN TIME FOR OPENING OF SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER, I.E. AFTER SEPTEMBER 10 (SCHOOL STARTS SEP 25).

2. I DO NOT WISH TO ENCOURAGE TRAVEL OF DEPENDENTS HERE, AND HOPE THAT NUMBER WHO WILL AVAIL SELVES OF OPTION WILL BE LIMITED. I NEVERTHELESS FEEL THAT FAMILY SEPARATION IS HARD-SHIP WHICH WE NEED NO LONGER ENFORCE, PROVIDED IT UNDERSTOOD BY ALL CONCERNED THAT THE EMPLOYEE WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR HIS OR HER FAMILY'S OBSERVANCE OF SUCH SECURITY PRECAUTIONS AS WE MAY IMPOSE FROM TIME TO TIME. THESE WILL INCLUDE IN PARTICULAR RESTRICTIONS ON LOCAL TRAVEL AND ACTIVITIES WHICH MAY BE INADVISABLE OR DANGEROUS. I HAVE TALKED TO THE TWO OFFICERS NOW AT POST WHO PLAN  
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TO BRING CHILDREN HERE (MALIK AND BADOLATO) AND THEY HAVE BOTH AGREED TO ASSUME SUCH RESPONSIBILITY.

3. WE WISH TO MAKE TRAVEL OF DEPENDENTS OPTIONAL: A) TO HELP KEEP NUMBER DOWN AND; B) BECAUSE A NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES HAVE ACCEPTED ASSIGNMENT HERE WITH UNDERSTANDING IT SEPARATION POST. THEY HAVE MADE ARRANGEMENTS TO

LOCATE FAMILIES ELSEWHERE, ENROLLED CHILDREN IN SCHOOLS, BOUGHT HOUSES, ETC., AND REQUIRING THEM NOW TO BRING FAMILIES HERE WOULD BE HARDSHIP.

4. DECISION TO PERMIT RETURN OF DEPENDENTS ALSO MEANS PERMISSION FOR SHIPMENT OF PERSONAL VEHICLES. AT THIS TIME THERE ARE NO POV'S AT POST. IMPORTATION OF THEM WILL POSE ADDED COMPLICATIONS FOR RSO AND HIS STAFF, BUT BELIEVE THEY MANAGEABLE.

5. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE IN ABOVE.  
PARKER

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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